

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification according to the following:

[0034] One embodiment of a splice is shown in FIG. 2A, 2B and 2C ~~FIG. 3A through FIG. 3D~~.

This embodiment is a compression fitting splice. In this embodiment, the compression fitting may include, but is not limited to, a compressible body 302, a rigid enclosure 304, and at least one compression implement 306. In further embodiments, the compression fitting may also include a washer 308 and a conductor sleeve 310. These elements of the compression fitting function to mate with the composite core 100 of the ACCC cable 200 and compress the compressible body 302 such that friction holds onto the composite core 100. Each element will be explained further below.

[0036] The elastomer 302 may provide one or more cavities 314 to mate with the composite core 100. These cavities 314 provide the female end of the mate with the composite core 100. In one embodiment, the cavity 314 perfectly fits the composite core 100. In essence, the inside shape and size of the cavity 314 is the same as the outside shape and size of the composite core 100. ~~FIG. 3~~ FIG. 2A and FIG. 2B shows the elastomer 302, its corresponding cavity 314, and the composite core 100 having a generally circular cross section. However, the composite core 100, the elastomer 302, and the cavity 314 may take on other shapes for cross sections and other shapes for the interior cavities.

[0037] In an exemplary embodiment shown in ~~FIG. 3~~ FIG. 2A, the cavities 314 extend within the elastomer 302 axially centered along the length of the elastomer 302. As shown in FIG. 2C ~~FIG. 3C~~, the elastomer 302 may have a first cavity 314 and a second cavity 314 in which each cavity 314 accepts the composite core 100 of either the first cable 200 or second cable 200. The cables 200 can be inserted in the cavities 314 at the first end 320 or second end 318. In the

embodiment shown, there are two separate and distinct cavities 314, with a wall of elastomer 324 separating the two cavities 314 at about the midpoint 322 of the elastomer 302. Other embodiments of the elastomer 302 and rigid enclosure 304 are shown in FIG. 5. The cavity 314 may be formed as one cavity 502 spanning the entire length of the elastomer 302. Also, in some embodiments, the rigid enclosure 504 may form two cavities 314, and each cavity 314 would have a separate elastomer 506.

[0038] Another element of the compression fitting is the rigid enclosure 304. The rigid enclosure 304 provides a case that encapsulates the elastomer 302. The rigid enclosure 304 should have the same general shape as the elastomer 302 and allow the elastomer 302 to fit inside the rigid enclosure 304. In an exemplary embodiment, the rigid enclosure 304 is a splicing tube 304 as shown in FIG. 2A and FIG. 2B ~~FIG. 3~~. However, the invention is not limited to that one embodiment but may assume any shape that can encapsulate the elastomer 302. The rigid enclosure 304 prevents the elastomer 302 from expanding or becoming misshapen when the elastomer 302 is compressed. Thus, the rigid enclosure 304 must maintain its shape when the elastomer 302 is being compressed and pressing on the interior walls of the enclosure 304.

[0040] In FIG. 2 ~~FIG. 3~~, the rigid enclosure 304 has the shape of a splicing tube 304. This shape is only exemplary. The rigid enclosure 304 should take on the shape of the elastomer 302. However, the rigid enclosure 304 may be hereinafter described as a splicing tube 304. The rigid enclosure 304 provides openings to allow the elastomer 302 to mate with the composite cores 100. The embodiment shown has a first open end 326 and a second open end 324. In addition, the rigid enclosure 304 also can provide additional openings for the compression implement 306.

[0044] In another embodiment, the compression fitting **300** may also include a conductor sleeve **310**. The conductor sleeve **310** refers to any structure that functions as an electrical jumper between the first cable **200** and the second cable **200**. A conductor sleeve **310** conducts and passes the electric current from one cable **200** to another. In one embodiment, the conductor sleeve **310** may be a cable **200** that is crimped to the conductors **202** of the first cable **200** and second cable **200**. In an exemplary embodiment, the conductor sleeve **310** is another hollow cylinder that can be slipped over the entire splice and contact the conductors **202** on both the first cable **200** and second cable **200**. The conductor sleeve **310** may be an electrically conductive tube that can carry the electric current from the first cable **200**, over the splice, to the second cable **200**. This embodiment of the conductor sleeve **310** is shown in **FIG. 2C** ~~FIG. 3~~ and is only exemplary.